them about the true facts regarding the situation in Jammu and Kashmir and of Pakistan's support to trans-border terrorism.

(b) Government of Pakistan has in official statements expressed its concern regarding the recent kidnappings of foreign tourists in Jammu and Kashmir.

Pakistan's statements in this regard are propagandistic and do not in any way alter the situation on ground, where Pakistan's active support and encouragement to cross-border terrorism against India continues unabated.

Proposal for dc-reservation of Ice-Cream Industry

1115. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have a proposal for de-reservation of Ice-Cream Industry and for permitting integrated dairy units with investment upto Rs. 500 crores;

(b) if so, what are the provocating factors for such a move when the small scale sector is capable to meet the demand for ice-cream;

(c) whether such proposal would mean diversion of liquid milk to vulnerable section of the society during lean season; and

(d) whether Government had in December last objected to the manufacture of ice-cream by the cooperative sector, which handles most of the liquid milk processing and marketing to vulnerable sections of the society and if so, why this sudden clamour for reversal of its earlier decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (d) There is no proposal pending before the Government for permitting integrated dairy units with investment upto Rs. 500 crores to manufacture ice-cream which is reserved for small scale sector. Presently, it is estimated that approximately 50% of the ice-cream manufactured in the country is by the small scale units. While no specific survey regarding impact on supply of liquid milk to the vulnerable section of the society due to use of milk in manufacture of ice-cream has been made, presently, less than 1% of the total milk production is used for manufacture of ice-cream.

Cases of suicides in Tihar Jail

1116. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a number of suicides committed by inmates of Tihar Jail in the Capital this year; if so, the details of each case;

(b) whether these suicides were committed by undertrials who had been hauled up for small offences like thefts and were desperate for the delay in bringing them to trial or were tired of prolonged trial;

(c) the comparative figures for the last three years; and

(d) the steps contemplated to obviate the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir. The details of suicides committed by four inmates of Tihar Jail during the year 1995 are given in the enclosed statement. (See *below)*

(b) While one inmate was a convict undergoing life imprisonment, the